

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04424 061351Z

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ACTION PER-03

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R 061155Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7237

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4424

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: APER AFSP YO

SUBJ: POLITICAL SECTION PERSONNEL

1. EMBASSY HAS FOR SOME TIME SHIFTED VISA OFFICER TO POLITICAL SECTION IM MID-TOUR. WE CAN SEE NO REASON TO CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE, WHICH DETRACTS FROM EFFICIENCY AND EXPERTISE NEEDED IN BOTH POLITICAL AND CONSULAR SECTIONS. THEREFORE REQUEST THAT REPLACEMENTS FOR MARTIN MCLEAN AND RONALD NEITZKE BE POLITICAL SPECIALISTS. (FYI: THERE EXISTS STRONG POSSIBILITY NEITZKE WILL REQUEST EXTENSION PRESENT ASSIGNMENT. DEPT WILL BE ADVISED ASAP.) THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED DIRECTLY TO THE POLITICAL SECTION FOR THEIR FULL TOURS. REPLACEMENT FOR STEPHEN KLEMP SHOULD THEREFORE BE CONSULAR OFFICER AND WILL SPEND FULL TOUR IN CONSULAR SECTION.

2. WITH EACH YEAR TITO'S DEPARTURE FROM POWER BECOMES MORE LIKELY. ASSIGNMENT OF HIGHEST QUALITY POLITICAL OFFICER FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL POSITION CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY MCLEAN IS ESSENTIAL. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA, EITHER IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE OR AS STUDENT, BUSINESSMAN, ETC. WOULD BE GREAT ASSET. THIS IS URGENT MATTER AS SLOT OPENING SUMMER 77.

3. CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BELGRADE IN 1977 MAY NECESSITATE ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL POLITICAL PERSONNEL TO EMBASSY. EUR/RPM AWARE OF ISSUE.
SILBERMAN

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NNN

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